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At Hilo the last case of human plague occurred March 23, 1910. A fatal case occurred at Honokaa, 60 miles from Hilo, April 20, 1911.

The last plague-infected rat was found at Honokaa February 2, 1911. A plague-infected rat was found at Hilo during the week ended June 10, 1911.

Honolulu—Plague-Prevention Work.

Chief Quarantine Officer Ramus reports, November 27 and December 5:

	Week ended Nov. 25.	Week ended Dec. 2.
Total rats and mongoose taken.....	671	471
Rats trapped.....	653	456
Mongoose trapped.....	5	14
Rats found dead.....		11
Rats shot from trees.....	13	
Examined bacteriologically.....	589	398
Classification of rats trapped:		
<i>Mus alexandrinus</i>	74	71
<i>Mus musculus</i>	158	64
<i>Mus norvegicus</i>	31	30
<i>Mus rattus</i>	390	290
Classification of rats shot from trees:		
<i>Mus alexandrinus</i>	4	
<i>Mus rattus</i>	9	
Average number of traps set daily.....	1,720	1,720

¹ *Mus rattus*.

Smallpox in Quarantine.

Dr. Ramus further reports the occurrence in quarantine December 19 of 1 new case of smallpox with 1 death; December 21, 1 death; December 24, 3 new cases with 1 death; December 25, 2 cases. The total number of cases from December 4 is 37 with 5 deaths.

INDIA.

Variations in Plague Conditions and Prevalence.

Consul General Michael at Bombay reports November 23:

The vagaries of plague are shown to a considerable degree in the report on plague administration for the year ended June 30, 1911, published by the government of the United Provinces. The report says in substance that plague attacked the province in 1910-11 in a more severe form than had been known in any previous year, with the exception of 1904-5. The number of deaths last year reached 314,495, while in 1904-5 it amounted to 354,285. The lowest mortality from this disease in the past 8 years was in 1908-9, when the death roll aggregated 13,814. In the month of March of the present year over 100,000 cases and nearly 95,000 deaths were recorded. A decline, however, set in during April, and by the beginning of June the disease had almost died out.

The report says: "It is unfortunate that our knowledge of the conditions favorable to the spread of the plague epidemic is not sufficiently advanced to enable a reliable explanation to be given of the violent fluctuations in seizures and deaths which occur from year to year."

The recent experience of the United Provinces shows that plague is more prevalent in years of plenty than in periods of agricultural

depression. "In 1908-9," says the report, "there was a failure of the crops, and reported deaths from this cause (plague) were 13,814. In 1909-10 agricultural conditions were good and deaths increased to 141,357. The year 1910-11 was a year of exceptional prosperity, and the number of deaths was found to be excessive. An explanation of this remarkable variation may be found in the theory that as an increased food supply resulting from good harvests leads to an increase in the rat population, it consequently tends to the spread of plague. It has been observed that early and heavy winter rains and the prevalence of cold damp weather synchronize with an increase in the severity of the epidemic.

Calcutta—Cholera and Plague.

Acting Assist. Surg. Allan Reports November 23: During the week ended November 4, 48 deaths from cholera and 6 from plague were reported in Calcutta; in all Bengal, 90 cases of plague with 63 deaths; in all India, 11,396 cases with 8,367 deaths.

ITALY.

Decrease in Prevalence of Cholera.

The official cholera bulletin issued by the Italian Government for the period from November 12 to 18 shows a total of 94 cases, with 51 deaths occurring during that period throughout the entire country. These figures show a decrease of 20 cases from the number reported during the preceding week. Three more provinces, viz, Bari, Palermo, and Sassari, are reported to be entirely free from cholera.

Palermo Declared Free From Cholera.

Consul de Soto reports November 28: According to information received from the Italian ministry of the interior the city and province of Palermo were declared free from cholera November 18.

Napies—Examination of Emigrants.

Passed Asst. Surg. Robinson reports December 5:

NAPLES.

Date.	Name of ship.	Destination.	Steerage passengers inspected and passed.	Pieces of baggage inspected and passed.	Pieces of baggage disinfected.
Nov. 27 29	Canopic.....	Boston.....	431	90	560
	Iniziativa.....	New York.....			
	Total.....		431	90	560

PALERMO.

Nov. 27	Valsalice.....	New Orleans.....			
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ROUMANIA.

Certain Localities Declared Free From Cholera.

Consul General Harvey, at Bucharest, reports November 27, that the city of Galatz and the district of Covurlui, in Roumania, have been declared free from cholera.